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STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

CHRISTMAS MARRIAGES.

There were not as many marriages celebrated during the 1938 Christmas season nor in the month of December 1938 as there were in the same periods for 1937, but there were considerably more than in any previous year. The number celebrated during the last 15 days of December were 416 for 1938, 426 for 1937 and 369 for 1936. For the month of December the marriages were 592 for 1938, 634 for 1937 and 568 for 1936. For 1938, there were 105 marriages on Saturday the 17th December, 66 on Saturday the 24th, 42 on Monday the 26th, and 41 on Saturday the 31st. Two marriages were celebrated on Christmas Day (Sunday). The day of the week on which Christmas Day falls has an effect on the number of marriages on the various days - in 1937, there were 143 on Saturday the 18th.

The record number of marriages celebrated on any one day was 207 on Easter Eve (Saturday) 1938.

During the first six months of 1938 there were 2,843 marriages, an increase of 222 on the previous year, but during the latter six months there were only 2,614, a decrease of 105, making a net increase of 117 for the year, the yearly total of 5,457 constituting a new record. There were only 3,069 marriages in the depression year 1930, since when the number has increased each year. The pre-depression record was 4,503 in 1926.

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